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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 076326-0196

Applicant: Heinz-Dieter ADOMEIT
Title: STEERING DEVICE FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE
Appl. No.: 09/988,749
Filing Date: 11/20/2001
Examiner: J. K. Smith
Art Unit: 3682

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OCT 08 2003
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.113, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Documents A2-A5 listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 were cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding European application. A copy of the European Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner. An English translation of the foreign-language document is not readily available; however, an English language abstract is attached herewith. The absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 CFR § 1.98 and MPEP § 609).

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP § 609.

STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,



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September 29, 2003
Date

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